

REMARKS

These remarks are responsive to the Office Action of October 23, 2006. Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. Claims 9-16 have been withdrawn. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested. Each of the rejections set forth in the Office Action is addressed below.

Section 112

Claims 1-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph on the grounds that the preamble of claim 1 recites "A head for use with a toothbrush" while the last two lines bring into question whether the claims are to the head alone or a toothbrush with a head welded thereto. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended and is now believed to properly reflect that it is directed to a head for a toothbrush.

Accordingly, the rejection is improper and should be withdrawn.

Section 102

Claims 1-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,988,777 to Pfenniger ("Pfenniger"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As evidenced by the declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 submitted herewith, Applicants conceived and reduced to practice the invention of claim 1 prior to the Mar. 17, 2003 priority date of Pfenniger. Accordingly, Pfenniger is not proper as a reference under Section 102 (e), and the rejection should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Pending claims 1-8 are believed to be in form for allowance, and an indication to that effect is respectfully requested at this time. If any fees are required or if an overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No. 03-2455.

Respectfully submitted,

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